MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 NOVEMBER 1982

Lebanon

Saudi Backing -- President Amin al-Jumayyil told the Cabinet that Saudi Arabia has expressed support for Lebanon in all matters, particularly the withdrawal of Israeli and all non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon, Beirut radio reported. According to Voice of Lebanon radio, Saudi King Fahd has accepted an invitation from Al-Jumayyil to visit Lebanon at the earliest opportunity.

Security Situation -- Christian and Druze militia continued to exchange sniper fire in 'Alayh despite the Israeli curfew on the town, Jerusalem radio reported. The Beirut-Damascus highway and local roads in the Ash-Shuf hills were closed to traffic and the Israelis sent reinforcements into the region, according to Jerusalem and Voice of Lebanon radios. The clandestine radio Free Lebanon later reported that the Israelis have arrested nine Druze for their part in the 8 November attack on a Christian funeral procession at Kafr Nabrakh.

Haddad Testimony -- "Free Lebanon" Commander Maj Sa'd Haddad told the Israeli commission of inquiry into the Beirut massacre that his soldiers were not in Beirut at the time of the massacre and that former Lebanese Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam falsely accused Haddad's militia of the killings after being told by Saudi Arabia to cover up the true perpetrators, IDF radio reported. Haddad said his men wear the same uniform as the Phalangists, because it comes from "the same restaurant."

Syria

Talks With Congressmen, Al-Jumayyil -- Syria has submitted several inquiries to the U.S. administration about President Ronald Reagan's peace plan and has also submitted other inquiries about the results of the Arab seven-member delegation's visit to Washington, President Hafiz al-Asad informed a visiting U.S. congressional delegation in remarks reported by Damascus radio. Syria wants peace "but we must first guarantee the availability of its elements," Al-Asad continued. The Syrian leader stressed that Israel's withdrawal from Arab territories occupied in 1967 and the rights of the Palestinian people are not negotiable issues. Asserting that peace is possible only if "compatibility" exists between the antagonists, Al-Asad told the congressmen that the continuation of U.S. aid to Israel prevents such compatibility and encourages Israel to continue its "aggression" and defiance of U.S. public opinion.

President al-Asad subsequently discussed bilateral issues in a telephone conversation with Lebanese President al-Jumayyil, SANA reported. According to Beirut radio, Al-Asad expressed gratification for Al-Jumayyil's current political moves.

Talas on Syrian Strength -- Defense Minister Gen Mustafa Talas declared that Syria is now stronger than at any time before in terms of weapons and will to fight the enemy, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

PLO

Addressing graduates of a PLO military course in Syria, PLO Deputy Military Commander Khalil al-Wazir said on 16 November that the Palestinians' battle with Israel is continuing and that no Palestinian militant will recognize Israel as long as it tries to usurp Palestinian rights, KUNA reported. Al-Wazir asserted that military operations against Israeli troops in Lebanon are the answer to those who claim that the Palestinian Revolution will never give up armed struggle, he vowed.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Addressing a news conference in Paris, Jordan's King Husayn reiterated that a comprehensive Middle East peace cannot be achieved unless the Palestinians are given a "leading role" in the peace negotiations, KUNA reported. The monarch added that he favors "some form of mutual recognition" between Israel and the Palestinians. However, Amman radio noted that King Husayn also condemned Israel's expansionist tendency during the news conference and asserted that Israel is hampering efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement. KUNA stated that King Husayn will head the seven-member Arab League delegation to Moscow and Beijing in early December.

Israel

Prime Minister Menahem Begin told an Egyptian special envoy that he wants to meet President Husni Mubarak after the end of his mourning period for 'Aliza Begin, MA'ARIV reported.

Iraq

The formation of the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq was announced in Tehran by the council's spokesman, Tehran radio reported. The spokesman said the council's goals include continuing the crusade against the Iraqi regime, forming an Islamic government in Iraq and supporting Iran as the base of the global Islamic revolution. The group considers itself the sole vehicle for liberating the Iraqi people and says that its future form and leadership in Iraq will be determined only by the Muslim people of Iraq.

Iran

Government forces liberated 15 km of the Sar Dasht-Mahasad road and completely cleared 15 villages of "counterrevolutionaries," Tehran radio claimed. The clandestine Free Voice of Iran radio contradicted earlier Tehran radio reports that the Kurdish Democratic Party's radio station was destroyed. The government forces destroyed one transformer, not the transmitter; while the radio cannot be heard throughout the country, it continues to broadcast and can be heard in the border areas, the Free Voice of Iran added.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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POLICE CRACK 'MAJOR' PAKISTANI SPY RING

BK171729 Hong Kong AFP in English 1719 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] New Delhi, Nov. 17 (AFP) -- The special branch of Delhi police has cracked a major Pakistan spy ring operating in the Defence Ministry here, Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported tonight.

Three junior government officials, whose names were still kept secret, were arrested last week. Their houses were searched by the special branch.

The three have been remanded to police custody for further questioning and also charged with offences under the Official Secrets Act.

The police managed to track down the spies following a tape recording statement by an "unidentified" informer.

According to the INDIAN EXPRESS this morning, the arrested, working in the sensitive research and development office of the ministry, had been regularly handing over highly classified information to the Pakistani Embassy.

The material which had been passed on to the Pakistanis was classified documents on the army, electronic data processing and minutes of top-secret defense meeting.

According to the paper, the spies were caught red-handed by the police last Saturday as they were in the act of taking back defence papers from their Pakistani contact, Nawab Mohammed, who works as a clerk in the embassy's visa section.

Mr. Mohammed was questioned by the police but later released and handed over to the Pakistan's naval attache here, the paper said.

After intensed interrogation the arrested reportedly broke down and confessed. They said they had been handing over documents to the Pakistanis for the last four years.

Their original contact was Capt. Masood who had since left the country, the paper said. Mr. Masood passed on his contacts to his successor.

Meanwhile, confirming the report, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said there appeared to be some errors in regard to details given in the paper.

The government was investigating the matter, he said without elaborating.

BANGLADESH FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 16 NOV

BK161650 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Bangladesh Foreign Minister A.R.S. Doha arrived in New Delhi this afternoon to take part in the first meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh joint commission. Doha was received at the airport by External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao. Talking to newsmen, Doha said his talks with the cochairman of the commission, Rao, would cover three broad areas stipulated in the joint communique. They are: communications and energy, science and technology and commerce and industry.

During his 3-day stay in the capital, Doha will call on the vice president and meet the minister for industry and commerce.

Joint Commission Meets

BK171717 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Excerpts] India will give a credit of 200 million rupees to Bangladesh on a government basis and another 400 million rupees commercial credit from the export-import bank for capital goods. This was announced by Bangladesh Foreign Minister A.R.S. Doha at a news conference in New Delhi this evening at the end of the first meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh joint economic commission. Another subject discussed was related to the setting up of joint ventures in [word indistinct] textiles, cement, newsprint and railway workshop. In this regard, also the Government of India has offered a line of credit to Bangladesh. Details are to be worked out. The two sides also signed a 5-year agreement on technological and scientific research. The agreement was initialed by Doha and External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao.

Bangladesh Foreign Minister A.R.S. Doha later called on Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi. He is understood to have apprised Mrs Gandhi with the outcome of the first meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh joint economic commission.

Dinner Remarks

BK180910 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao has assured Bangladesh Foreign Minister A.R.S. Doha that India will take a constructive approach to all bilateral matters. Speaking at a dinner hosted in honor of the visiting dignitary in New Delhi last night, he said the Indo-Bangladesh joint commission has opened yet another avenue to strengthen mutual cooperation.

Rao expressed the hope that a spirit of goodwill and understanding has enabled the two countries to overcome differences which may arise from time to time.

Referring to the growing international tension, the external affairs minister said as nonaligned nations India and Bangladesh must make renewed efforts in the cause of peace and stability.

In his reply the Bangladesh foreign minister said the potential areas in which the two countries can work together are unlimited. He said they can still make up for the lost time through organized work.

Referring to the nonaligned summit to be held in New Delhi in March, Doha expressed the confidence that Nonaligned Movement would receive renewed vigor and momentum under India's leadership.

Leaves for Dhaka

BK180853 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Foreign Minister of Bangladesh A.R.S. Doha left this morning for Calcutta on his way to Dhaka at the end of his 3-day visit. Doha was seen off by External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao. He was in Delhi to attend the first meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh joint economic commission.

BORDER PATROLS IN ASSAM FURTHER INTENSIFIED

BK171204 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Adviser to the Assam governor R.V. Subramaniam has said that patrolling along the international border in the state has been further intensified. The security personnel are keeping a strict vigil at the border checkposts to prevent infiltration.

Subramaniam, now touring Upper Assam districts, told newsmen in Dibrugarh that the state government is faithfully implementing the policy instruction to detect and deport the foreigners who had entered Assam after 25 March 1971. He denied allegations that the influx from Bangladesh is continuing.

STRIKES AT ALL INDIA RADIO, TV PROHIBITED

BK170947 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Strikes in All India Radio [AIR] and Doordarsan [television] have been prohibited in the public interest. An order to this effect was issued by the central government today under the Essential Service Maintenance Act. It prohibits strikes in every service in any establishment of AIR and Doordarsan as well as in any installation connected with them.

The implication of the order is that any strike before or after today's order by employees of AIR and Doordarsan is illegal. Any person who starts such an illegal strike or takes part in it or instigates others to do so will be liable to disciplinary action. This will include dismissal. Those who start an illegal strike or take part in it can also be jailed for a term extending up to 6 months or can be asked to pay a fine of up to 1,000 rupees or both. Those who instigate others to take part in an illegal strike or act in furtherance of it can also be jailed and fined. Similar imprisonment and fine have been prescribed for those who knowingly spend or supply money to support the illegal strike.

Any police officer can arrest without warrant any person who is reasonably suspected or have committed an offence under the Essential Services Maintenance Act. All offences under the act will be tried in a summary way by any metropolitan magistrate or any first-class judicial magistrate especially empowered on this behalf.

Some Employees Detained

BK171606 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] According to agency reports some employees of All India Radio and Doordarsan [television] were detained in New Delhi this evening under the Essential Service Maintenance Act. Those detained include some technicians and Class Four employees.

STRIKE IN CHANDIGARH PASSES PEACEFULLY

BK161616 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] The Chandigarh bundh [strike] today passed off peacefully. The response to the bundh was partial with buses, taxis and rickshaws plying in the city as normal. Banks and public utility services remained unaffected. However, most of the shops in the main market remained closed. The call for the bundh was given by Chandigarh Citizens Council to press their demand for the maintenance of status quo of the city as union territory.

CONGRESS-I MINISTRY ASSUMES OFFICE IN NAGALAND

BK171014 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Excerpts] In Nagaland, a seven-member Congress-I ministry headed by the newly-elected leader of the Congress-I legislative party S.C. Jamir has assumed office. At a simple ceremony in Kohima today Nagaland Governor S.M.H. Barney administered the oath of office and secrecy to Jamir as chief minister and six of his colleagues.

The election commission today issued a notification constituting the new legislative assembly in the state. The old assembly was dissolved by the state governor yesterday.

BRIEFS

COTTON ACCORD WITH USSR -- The Soviet Union today signed agreement with 11 Indian firms at the trade fair for supply of cotton cloth worth more than 70 million rupees. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Nov 82 BK]

USSR ELECTION INDUSTRY DELEGATION -- A three-member delegation from the Soviet Union led by the deputy minister for electric technical industry, L.P. Safronkov, has arrived in New Delhi. Talking to newsmen Safronkov said his visit will further develop technological and economic cooperation between India and his country in the field of electric technical industry. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 11 Nov 82 BK]

SECOND ANTARCTICA EXPEDITION -- Preparations have now been completed for the second Indian Antartica expedition which is expected to leave on its mission soon, C.P.N. Singh, minister of state for science and technology, informed the Rajya Sabha November 4. The minister told in a written reply that a vessel had been charted and a team of about 26 members consisting of scientists, engineers, technicians, doctors, photographer and logistics personnel had been selected and given training. [Text] [Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1445 GMT 4 Nov 82 BK]

PTI-APP TELEPRINTER LINK -- The Press Trust of India [PTI] and the Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) November 1 established a direct teleprinter link between PTI's New Delhi and APP's Islamabad offices. The setting up of the link coincides with Pakistan President Ziaul Haq's brief stopover in New Delhi for talks with the prime minister. PTI and APP had entered into a news exchange agreement on October 1 this year. The teleprinter link will be used not only for the exchange of news services of the two new agencies but also for the news of the organisation of Asia-Pacific News Agencies (OANA) and the pool of the news agencies of the nonaligned countries. [Text] [Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0900 GMT 2 Nov 82 BK]

BRITISH POWER AID AGREEMENT -- Britain has provided assistance worth over 1.9 billion rupees to India for a superthermal power station to be built in Uttar Paradesh. An agreement to this effect was signed in New Delhi on 17 November. [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Nov 82 BK]

NEW ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR -- New Algerian Ambassador Nur ad-Din Harbi has presented his credentials to President Zail Singh at presidential residence. [Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 16 Nov 82 BK]

ENVOY TO FRG -- The FRG president received credentials from Indian Ambassador R.D. Sathe in Bonn on 16 November. [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Nov 82 BK]

MOSCOW TALKS SHOULD HELP IMPROVE ATMOSPHERE

BK171202 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Commentary by Nasir Haider]

[Text] In his chat with pressmen before his departure for Moscow to attend the late Soviet President Brezhnev's funeral, President Ziaul Haq had hinted that he might avail of the opportunity to broach the subject of Afghanistan with the new leadership of the Kremlin while he was in Moscow. The opportunity presented itself readily enough when Yuriy Andropov, the new secretary general of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, invited the president for private talks almost immediately after the funeral rites had been performed and the guests returned to their residences on Monday afternoon.

President Ziaul Haq was one of the very few -- about three or four -- important visitors to Moscow on this occasion to be so honored. The official account of the meeting released soon after named Afghanistan as a principal topic discussed, though the Pakistan president was also believed to have briefed the Soviet leader on his recent trips to China and other countries as well as his talks with Mrs Gandhi during his stopover at New Delhi on his way to Bangkok earlier this month.

Mrs Gandhi is also reported to have met Andropov the same afternoon. Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan accompanied the Pakistan president at the meeting in the Kremlin at which Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko was also present. This clearly raises the significance of the meeting from a mere courtesy call to a serious official discussion at the policy level -- the more so in the light of the fact that Gromyko has already had more than one occasion of meeting Sahabzada Yaqub Khan at Geneva and New York. These meetings were also concerned with the question of Afghanistan.

Pakistan for herself has stressed for a political solution by negotiations all along. She has also striven to hold her relationship with her superpower neighbor at an even keel. She has not allowed the contrary stances -- the country's hold on Afghanistan -- to interfere with normal diplomatic intercourse between the two countries in the bilateral relations.

With the new leadership in the saddle in Moscow, it is but natural that the steps taken should (?rise) for a modification of this attitude which has soured the atmosphere in the region.

President Zia's talks with Andropov should eminently help this process and provide to the new leader of the Kremlin with the most up to date briefing on the situation on Russia's southern border which has attracted utmost attention from the rest of the world and on which the prospects for peace in this region so largely hang.

The officials' account of the talks between the two leaders have emphasized the cordiality that prevailed at the meeting as well as the fact that the discussion on Afghanistan was held at the level of principles which should govern the peaceful resolution of the tangle. This is it as it should be.

NAWA-I-WAQT APPEALS TO ZIA FOR NEW GOVERNMENT

GF121626 Karachi NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 1 Nov 82 p 3

[Editorial: "An Appeal to the President and His Esteemed Colleagues"]

[Excerpts] The most important issue as far as the masters of the country's administration is concerned is that of peace and security. However, from the national point of view, what is of utmost and fundamental importance is the need to assess where we stand and where we are headed, that is, the need to understand the trend of the current state of affairs.

Whatever the government's opinion in this regard, there are certain events which are becoming the focus of the people's attention as well as apprehension and anxiety, and it will be to the advantage of those at the helm of affairs if they elucidate their stand with free and unbiased minds, as it will be to the benefit of the common man.

Heading the list is the problem of what is to be envisaged as the future form of government, that is, in what way will people be made to participate in the country's government. The government has been promising to explain this for the last 3 yars but basically this is a problem which should have been tackled first of all. Although the work of updating the lists of candidates has begun, the issue of whether there will be any elections at all is still clouded. The president does assure foreign correspondents that elections will be held but when our own people try to obtain definite information on the matter, they do not get any positive reply. In the same atmosphere of evasion it is reiterated from time to time that elections will be held and at the same time a roundtable conference has been called to strengthen the demand for the elections. It is also being said that a campaign will be started for the elections.

As far as the country's lawyers are concerned, this campaign has already begun and has reached a point where the lawyers wear black bands and even boycott sessions. The intelligentsia, which does not favor internal agitation in view of the external threats to the country, is also compelled to listen to the circles talking of agitation and protest and cannot reject such talk when it does not receive a satisfactory answer to the question of where we are going. They are obliged to maintain silence which strengthens the position of the elements demanding protests and agitation. These elements will now exploit the recent arrest of the Red Shirt leader Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan to their own advantage.

Foreign trips are an important and effective means of promoting the country's interests but these are effective only in proportion to the stability of the conditions at home.

The means of dissemination at the disposal of the government are multifarious but unless the people accept the official point of view and profess the same themselves, the repeated declaration of the official stance does not have any effect as was seen in the time of Ayub Khan and Bhutto. On the contrary, it promotes boredom. Therefore, an appeal to the President and his esteemed colleagues does not seem out of place so they will pay as much attention to creating goodwill and trust within the country as to "goodwill trips" abroad, and they will endeavor to probe the feelings and aspirations of the people and strive to change their way of thinking and acting.

INDIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY SIGNS NOTE

BK151029 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] The Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Indian Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chamber of Commerce and Industry signed a note of understanding on solving problems relating to promotion of bilateral trade and economic relations.

Speaking on the occasion, the head of the Indian delegation, V. Punj, said officials of the two chambers will hold quarterly meetings to review progress in bilateral relations. He said India is importing iron from Pakistan and many more items including soda ash and polyester can also be imported from there. He said there are bright prospects for bilateral exchanges of technology which will benefit both sides.

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAQ SUPREME COUNCIL FORMED

LD171320 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] The Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq was formed in Tehran today and announced its existence. Please pay attention to a report we have just received.

During special ceremonies today, attended by representatives of struggling clergy and Muslim revolutionaries from Iraq at Tehran's Esteqlal Hotel, with several correspondents of the mass media and foreign and domestic news agencies persent, the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq announced its formation.

At the ceremonies, the council's inaugural statement first was distributed among those present in Persian, Arabic and English.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Muhammad (Bakr al-Hakim) then described to reporters the aim of the formation of the council. Presenting himself as the council's spokesman, he then answered questions from reporters regarding the aims, planning and modus operandi of the council.

Hojjat ol-Eslam (Hakim) said:

This council has been formed at a time when the blessed memory of the martyr Ayatollah Sadr and his struggling sister [executed 3 years ago] is shining and more than 5,000 combatants of the Iraqi Islamic revolution have been martyred by the Zionist regime of that country; when at the moment over 100,000 are in prison and a large number of Iraqi Muslims have been deported from that country because they believe in Islamic regulations; and when 100,000 people have been killed for no purpose in an unwanted war.

He said the council's aims are: to follow up and continue the crusade against imperialism and the 'Aflaqist, criminal regime of Baghdad based on Islamic ideology until victory; to free the Muslim people of Iraq from all kinds of dependence, domination and exploitation, based on a just Islamic government under the leadership of the clerical rule; to pursue the Islamic principle of neither East nor West in political issues; to crusade against world colonialist powers and their mercenaries; to maintain independence from all forms of military, political and cultural dependence on East and West, or their spheres of influence; to believe in the Islamic Republic of Iran as a base for the global Islamic revolution and to support its ideological stands in confrontation against world blasphemy.

The Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq's plans and responsibilities are:

1. To determine the political, military and propaganda direction of the Islamic revolution in Iraq.

2. To make decisions suitable to conditions at each stage of the Islamic revolution, until victory.

3. To motivate political forces in a unified direction, by creating coordination and cooperation among them.

The council also considers itself the sole vehicle for self-sacrifice, struggle, accepting responsibilities and serving the liberation of the Muslim people of Iraq and the Islamic revolution in Iraq. Its future form and leadership in Iraq, after the overthrow of the satan, will be determined only by the Muslim offspring and the oppressed people of Iraq, although we believe that on the basis of its principles and the sacrifices the movement has made for them, the Iraqi people will choose only an Islamic regime and an Islamic leadership.

In conclusion, all Muslim umma' of Iraq and all genuine and benevolent forces are invited to cooperate in shouldering the burden of historic responsibilities at this destiny-shaping time and to endeavor seriously to topple the criminal satanic regime of Iraq, a regime that has imposed subservience, tragedies and countless destruction upon the Iraqi people. It is up to everybody to beware of imperialist plots and conspiracies trying to replace other suspicious pawns for this regime.

MUSAVI CHAIRS 17 NOVEMBER CABINET SESSION

LD171324 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] The Cabinet this morning held a session chaired by Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn-Musavi. While studying the latest reports from the battlefronts and political and social developments in the region, discussions were held on the domestic issues of the country and certain decisions were made in this session. According to the Central News Unit, after today's Cabinet session, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn-Musavi said in an interview: In today's session, after studying the latest reports from the battlefronts, reports were presented to the Cabinet by the brothers who had gone to Esfahan to take part in the funeral of the martyrs from that self-sacrificing and heroic city. This report was greeted with the Cabinet's appreciation for the martyr-nurturing spirit of the people of Esfahan.

Musavi added: The spirit prevailing in that champion city at the moment is similar to the attitude of the nation on 11 February and the days immediately after the victory of the Islamic revolution. Certainly, the entire nation enjoys the same spirit. We are proud to be serving such self-sacrificing people.

The prime minister added: The honor achieved by Esfahan in the self-sacrifice is truly unique throughout the country. He added: In today's session, Morteza Nabavi also presented a report to the Cabinet concerning his trip to the city and its industrial complexes. Discussions about the reconstruction of the war zones followed.

At the end of this session, during which a number of bills and resolutions were approved, a report was presented to the Cabinet on the activities of the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education, the decision of that ministry to reopen universities and the difficulties it has encountered in this connection. In view of the importance of the matter, the general feeling of the Cabinet was that the universities should be reopened as soon as possible so that, God willing, they may train the necessary specialized manpower.

Concerning the results of the visit of Yugoslavia's foreign secretary, the prime minister said: Yugoslavia is one of the founding members of the Nonaligned Movement. Naturally, these meetings will not only result in the expansion of our relations with Yugoslavia, but also with the Nonaligned Movement which is among the relatively healthy international organizations. He added: During this visit, the positions of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning various issues were clarified and it was emphasized that if the Nonaligned Movement wants to portray itself in the world as an active force, it should renounce its inactive posture so that it can have a stronger position concerning the big powers and the arrogance of the East and West. Musavi added: We also emphasized that if the Nonaligned Movement doesn't adopt an indifferent attitude toward the issues confronting the world, if it tries to adopt a positive stand on issues on the basis of the principles of the Nonaligned Movement and if it emphasizes quality more than quantity, it will be successful.

Referring to the increase in commercial and economic exchanges between Iran and Yugoslavia after the victory of the Islamic revolution and the visit of the Yugoslav foreign secretary to Iran, the prime minister said: Such visits can further strengthen and expand the exchanges between the two countries based on the interests of our nation.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,125

LD171740 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Communique No 1,125 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] Following the victorious operations of the devotees of Islam on the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operations' front, at 0800 yesterday, an Iraqi katyusha emplacement came under the crushing blows of the ground forces' artillery and was destroyed; 17 of the Saddamist forces were taken prisoner by the combatants of Islam.

Sporadic fighting and exchanges of fire continued yesterday on the other western fronts. On every front, the combatants of Islam dealt the necessary blows to the enemy and silenced its fire, destroying several vehicles and killing a number of servicemen.

As a result of the fire of the combatants of Islam on Iraqi positions on the Marivan front, the Saddamist forces' fire was silenced in the (Hargineh) and Rawshan areas considerable losses and casualties were inflicted.

In the Chogha Bahram area, the heroes of the gendarmerie returned fire on the positions of the Iraqi Zionist forces, destroying one mortar and one observation post and killing a number of servicemen. In the Nowsud and Shur-e Shirin areas, the devotees of the gendarmerie bravely returned and stopped the Saddamists' fire.

Fighting and fire exchanges were intense yesterday on the Moharram fronts. The falling Saddamist forces tried to launch a series of operations in an area overlooking the Zobeyd road. However, the victorious heroes of Islam crushed the desperate resistance of the enemy forces and occupied new positions.

In the course of fire exchanges on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the heroes of [words indistinct] brought enemy positions under their fire, inflicting losses and casualties on the Saddamist mercenaries, disrupting or stopping their movements and traffic on the other side of the Arvand Rud.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

BATTLE SUCCESSES FOR 15 NOVEMBER REPORTED

LD171722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] According to an IRNA dispatch from the Najaf Headquarters, during the victorious operations carried out by Islam's troops the night before last in the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operational zone, more than 1,000 Saddamist aggressors were either killed or wounded. Also, more than 50 enemy tanks, armored personnel carriers and vehicles were destroyed and large numners of mortars belonging to the aggressors were set ablaze and destroyed. Moreover, a large quantity of communications equipment, heavy machine guns, [word indistinct], Kalashnikov's and 60-mm mortars were captured by Islam's forces.

MINES ON MOHARRAM OPERATION FRONTS DEFUSED

LD171814 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Since the beginning of the victorious Moharram operations, more than 150,000 mines and 1,500 drums containing explosives have been found and defused in the Moharram operation zone. An informed official in the Karbala' Headquarters told an IRNA correspondent: The cowardly and demoralized enemy planted about 600,000 various types of antitank, antivehicle and antipersonnel mines and large numbers of 20 to 220 liter drums containing explosives to be detonated when the forces of Islam launched an attack. However, the lightning attack launched by Islam's combatants was so rapid that the defeated Iraqi forces did not have time to detonate the drums.

IRAQI POSITIONS SHELLED EAST OF AL-BASRA

LD172036 Tehran IRNA in English 1938 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Ahvaz, Nov 17 IRNA -- Thirty Iraqi soldiers were killed over the past 24 hours as the enemy's positions east of Al-Basra and in the Ramadan theatre of the southern fronts came under the fire of the Islamic combatants.

Also, eight more Iraqis were killed or wounded and the enemy's vehicles movements on the Al-Faw-Al-Basra logistical route were halted when the Iranian artillery fire smashed three Iraqi group bunkers, seven dug-outs and one lookout post on the Kushk's southern axis and beyond the Arvand Rud.

Meanwhile, two innocent people of Abadan were wounded and four houses were demolished by the Iraqi artillery fire which also caused fires in two sectors during this same time.

At 12:20 hours local time today, two Iraqi war planes violated Abadan's air space but were immediately repulsed, without carrying out any mission, by the Iranian air defence fire.

CLERGYMEN SENT FROM QOM TO BATTLEFRONTS

LD171756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] According to IRNA, following the religious edict issued by the imam of the umma' and on the basis of the suggestion of Ayatollah Montazeri about the need for the active presence of the committed clergy on the battlefields of the imposed war, more than 350 brother clergymen and jurisconsults from the Qom religious seminary were sent to the battlefields of the war between truth and falsehood by the religious publicity bureau in Qom.

According to the same report, a group of fighters from the mobilization units of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps also left Qom this morning for the battlefields amid an enthusiastic send off by the martyr-nurturing people of that town.

OPERATIONS AGAINST 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES'

LD171744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] A dispatch from the Hamzeh Seyyed as-Shohada Headquarters following the liberation of the important strategic Piranshahr-Sar Dasht highway reports that the Islamic combatants have embarked on consolidating their positions on both sides of that axis and are defending it with might and main.

Islam's victorious combatants in a series of coordinated operations this morning succeeded in liberating another 15 km of the Sar Dasht-Mahabad axis and also the (Hamran) heights in the region occupied for a considerable time by counterrevolutionaries subservient to world arrogance and in completely mopping up 15 villages on the same axis.

Yesterday, the self-sacrificing combatants defending the Islamic revolution also succeeded in attacking a group of people from the pro-U.S. hypocrites minigroup on the run, who imagined that Kurdestan was a safe haven from the arm of justice, in the [word indistinct] region 35 km from the Sar Dasht-Mahabad axis. They destroyed two vehicles, killing a number of these people.

CLANDESTINE: KURDISH RADIO STILL OPERATIONAL

GF171805 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] We start our news today with a report from Kurdestan. The radio of Iranian Kurdestan continues to broadcast its programs against Khomeyni's regime. Our correspondent in Azarbayjan in a dispatch sent to us this afternoon -- we received it at our clandestine headquarters moments ago -- states that he has heard the Democratic Party radio and thus the report by the dishonored radio of the Islamic Republic is a lie.

The occupied Tehran radio, the voice of the dishonored regime of Khomeyni, had reported that guards had taken 90 km of Sar Dasht-Piranshahr road and while pushing the Kurdish fighters back, had managed to destroy the Democratic Party's transmitter. Our correspondent reports the regime's guards in their battle with Kurdish fighters destroyed one transformer and its associated distribution system and then reported that they had destroyed the Democrat's radio transmitter. The radio cannot be heard in most parts of the country and can only be heard on the border areas. This radio has been broadcasting programs against the antinationalist regime of Khomeyni for nearly 3 years.

EMIGRE PUBLICATION LOOKS AT PLOT AGAINST ARMY

GF161744 Paris ARA in Persian 7 Oct 82 p 1

[Text] Khomeyni's cronies intend to weaken the Iranian Armed Forces and destroy the remainder of the large and nationalist Iranian army. They started with the murder of the generals and commanders and then a rumor that the lower echelons are of the masses and innocent and will not be harmed. This trick and the lies continue.

The truth is that the Khomeyni regime cannot stand one armed forces member and secretly is trying to destroy the 100,000 officers, commanders and NCO's. The imposed war between Iran and Iraq is the result of Khomeyni's sense of personal revenge.

Khomeyni is trying to take his revenge on Saddam Husayn and every single Iranian army member. He is trying to kill two birds with one stone, that is, to destroy the Iranian army using Saddam's army and to destroy Saddam through the Iranian army. Khomeyni's stupidity was in not realizing that a mobilization of the army against Iraq would become some form of nationalist Iranian mobilization. He did not understand that by attacking Iraq, he would be strengthening Iraqi nationalism and when he realized that his trick was not working and the Iranian army was defending each part of the homeland with ultimate sacrifice and had recaptured its position and self-esteem, he started to use other means to get rid of this victorious and honorable army.

He started his work by infiltrating the mercenary and sly guards into various parts of the army and daily added to their false power. This reached the level that these illiterate ruffians now think themselves fit to make decisions on strategic and very important military issues. However, this trick of the regime failed and caused reactions in the army, which ended in unity, cooperation and secret or open resistance.

Guards who gradually began to realize the depth and intensity of military issues began to compare their job on the fronts with idleness and an easy time in Tehran and their extortions in Tehran and other cities. They started to return to the towns and cities, using the excuse of the victory in the war and began their complaints.

Some of them even started feigning illness to avoid going to the fronts and for the sake of continuing their highly paid illegal businesses in Tehran and other cities. Others started to doubt the basis of the need for the war with Iraq and openly started arguing with their parasitic masters in Tehran.

A worried Khomeyni announced that the guards are not allowed to shirk responsibility and the mullahs set them in highly paid jobs in the cities. They sent a new bunch to the fronts. This time, the armed forces on the basis of their natural self-esteem stopped them from any intervention and thus took the initiative from the guards. This, of course, is intolerable to Khomeyni and his selfish regime.

We have definite information concerning plans designed by extremist groups, directly connected to Khomeyni, against all Iranian Armed Forces personnel at every level. These traitorous plans are based on the massacre of garrisons using the excuse of coup attempts, uprisings, cooperation with the hypocrites and counterrevolutionaries and insulting Islam and the imam. The various types of plans and their parts are clear to us and some of them follow:

-- Deliberate explosions at garrisons
-- Poisoning food in the mess kichens of the garrisons
-- Causing an uprising of the soldiers against officers and NCO's
-- Arson in armories
-- Creating private arguments and clashes and using the opportunities as they arise
-- Planting anti-Khomeyni publications in the garrisons, discovering them and using the excuse to destroy targeted people in garrisons
-- Infiltrating regime's elements among the military ranks by branding them counter-revolutionaries and then arresting people for contact with such counterrevolutionaries

These are parts of an extensive plot that may at any moment endanger the lives of hundreds of thousands of Iranian officers and NCO's. Of course, some of these plots take on a nationalist color such as the plan for attacking Baghdad. We are certain that the awareness of the armed forces will neutralize all such plots. We are certain that the wolf of Jamaran and his cronies will go to the lowest level of hell before they succeed in weakening the Iranian army and its personnel.

However, we warn the sacrificing people of Iran to intensify their cooperation and unity with the armed forces and honor, be kind and look after these dear and zealous soldiers. We warn the families of armed forces personnel to keep a vigil and look after their houses and their lives. We warn the people of Iran that the army is the backbone of the country and they have to stand behind it and watch events.

The army and armed forces personnel never pointed a gun at their own people. They are the children of Iran who ensure its security and development. Cut off the hands of Khomeyni's cronies, leftist Moscowvites and leftist Islamists from the holy body of the garrisons. The army is the recapturer and the reconstructor of Iran.

FUNERAL FOR 320 MARTYRS HELD IN ESFAHAN

GF171810 Esfahan Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Excerpts] To honor the martyrdom of more than 320 people who have been devoted to the Karbala' of Imam Hoseyn and who have fallen during the Moharram operation in the fight against the Ba'thist-Zionist infidels and have attained martyrdom, a grand rally was held today at Seyyed Mosque in Esfahan. The congregation included: Parvaresh, minister for education; Hojjat ol-Eslam Eje'i, minister of state in charge of welfare organizations; Salek, commander of the Mobilization Department of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps; Kopa'i, acting governor of the province; Ayatollahzadeh Ashrafi Esfahani; commanders of the Revolution Guards Corps Mobilization Departments of District No 2; Salvati, deputy at the Islamic Majlis; members of the local organizations; students; commanders of the local military units of the province and their personnel; civil officials and other martyr-loving people; and Esfahan citizens.

IZEH MAN EXECUTED 3 NOVEMBER FOR ADULTERY

GF171334 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 4 Nov 82 p 19

[Text] The Public Relations Office of the Izeh Islamic Revolution Guard Corps announced: An individual named Mohammad Baqeri was sentenced to death by the Ahvaz revolution court for having committed adultery with his sister-in-law. The verdict was carried out early yesterday morning.

SHIRAZ IMAM URGES PEOPLE TO JOIN FIGHTERS

GF121056 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 10 Nov 82

[Message from Shiraz Friday Imam Mohyi ad-Din Ha'iri -- date not given -- read by announcer]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The devotees of God, his special believers who have sacrificed their lives for the cause of opening the route to Karbala', have now taken the path of eternity. I am addressing you, the lovers and followers of Hoseyn, who desperately expect the visit of the shrine of Karbala', how could you raise your heads at the presence of Seyyed as-Shohada tomorrow and how could you march towards his court, if you do not leave your jobs today and accompany the rest of the brother followers? It is my ardent desire that all friends must leave their work and join them. God bless you.

[Signed] Mohyi ad-Din Ha'iri, Friday imam of Shiraz